



# **THE LABOUR FORCE**

**NEW SOUTH WALES**

**MAY 1981**

**AUSTRALIAN  
BUREAU OF  
STATISTICS**

**N.S.W. OFFICE**



**Catalogue No. 6201.1**

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AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
N.S.W. OFFICE

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. This bulletin contains estimates relating to the civilian labour force and to those not in the labour force. The estimates have been derived from the results of the Population Survey, which is conducted on a sample basis throughout Australia. From February 1978, the Survey has been conducted each month. Previously, the Survey was conducted in February, May, August, and November of each year. Figures shown for periods prior to February 1978 have been revised to make them as comparable as possible with the results of the monthly Population Survey - see the February 1979 issue of this bulletin for details.

2. Statistics similar to those contained in Tables 1 and 2 of this bulletin are published each month as they become available, in the publication Monthly Summary of Statistics (1305.1) which is available free on request to this Office. Other data contained in this bulletin are also available each month (except for the occupation and industry details for employed persons, which are available only on a quarterly basis). In addition, other unpublished data may also be available. These data, if required each month as they become available, may be obtained from this Office.

3. The Population Survey. The Survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about one-half of one per cent of the population of New South Wales. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. The interviews are generally conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week before the interview (i.e. the Survey week). Before February 1978, the interviews were spread over four weeks, chosen so that the Survey weeks generally fell within the limits of the calendar month.

4. Scope. The Survey includes all persons aged 15 years and over, except :

- (a) members of the permanent defence forces;

- (b) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations;

- (c) overseas visitors holidaying in Australia; and

- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants), stationed in Australia.

5. Reliability of the estimates. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they may differ from figures that would have been obtained if the information had been collected from occupants of all dwellings (using the same questionnaire and interviewing procedures). One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included in the Survey. A Technical Note, showing the likely standard errors relating to sample estimates, is shown on page 15 of this bulletin.

### 6. Classifications of the labour force

(a) The Labour Force Classification used in the Survey conforms closely to that recommended by the Eighth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 1954. The labour force comprises all civilians aged 15 years and over who, during the Survey week, were employed or unemployed. The Survey week comprises the seven days preceding the interview week (see note 3 above). The activities of persons in this period of reference are used in determining the classification of those who are employed. In addition to this week, the 3 weeks preceding it are also considered in identifying the unemployed. More detailed definitions of these two groups follow.

#### (b) Employed persons

- i. These comprise all civilians aged 15 years and over who, during the Survey week :

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or

business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or

- worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or

- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the Survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the Survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salaries while undertaking full-time study; or

- were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

ii. These employed persons can be classified into :

- full-time workers (i.e. those who usually work 35 hours a week or more, and others who, although usually part-time workers, worked 35 hours or more during the Survey week); and
- part-time workers (i.e. those who usually work less than 35 hours a week, and who did so during the Survey week).

A person who held more than one job is counted only once - in the job in which he worked most hours during the Survey week.

(c) Unemployed persons comprise all civilians aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the Survey week, and :

- i. had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the Survey week, and :

- were available for work in the Survey week, or would have been available ~~except for temporary~~ illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the Survey week); or

- were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the Survey week, and would have started in the Survey week if the job had been available then; or

- ii. were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the Survey week (including the whole of the Survey week) for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.

Note. The figures shown in this bulletin for the number of persons unemployed should not be confused with those issued by the Commonwealth Department of Employment and Youth Affairs; the latter figures represent the number of persons registered as unemployed with the Commonwealth Employment Service.

(d) Persons not in the labour force are those who, during the Survey week, were not in the categories 'employed' or 'unemployed', as defined.

7. Industry classification. The classification of industries is in accordance with the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC) described in the Bureau publication Australian Standard Industrial Classification, Vol. 1 - The Classification (1201.0). From September 1979, classification is according to the 1978 Edition of ASIC while for earlier periods classification was according to the 1969 (Preliminary) Edition.

8. Occupation classification. The classification of occupations is in accordance with the Classification and Classified List of Occupations (Revised, June 1976).

9. Comparability of series. When comparing estimates for February 1978 and subsequent months with those for earlier periods, it should be noted that with the introduction of monthly surveys the interviews are now conducted during a two-week period, whereas formerly the period was four weeks (see note 3). This change of timing may affect the level of the figures for any month, but particularly for months during which employment status of the population may be changing rapidly.

10. Related publications

(a) Users may also wish to refer to the following publications, which are available free on request :

Unemployment, Australia : Preliminary Estimates (6201.0)

The Labour Force, Australia (Preliminary) (6202.0)

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)

Information Paper : Questionnaires used in the Labour Force Survey (6232.0)

(b) In addition to the regular demographic and labour force characteristics which are contained in the above publications, supplementary surveys of particular aspects of the labour force or of other subjects are carried out from time to time. The

results of these surveys are published separately. A list of such publications is contained in the back of the monthly publication The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0). Copies of publications containing supplementary survey information are available free on request.

(c) All publications produced by the ABS are listed in Catalogue of Publications (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS Office.

11. In some cases, the ABS can also make available information which is not published. This information may be made available in one or more of the following forms: microfiche, photocopy, data tape, computer printout, clerically-extracted tabulation. Generally, a charge is made for providing unpublished information. Inquiries should be made as shown in the Inquiries section of this publication.

Symbols and other usages.

\* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes.

n.a. Not available.

r Figure or series revised since previous issue.

Figures have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals shown.

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28 October 1981

KEY:

- MALES
- FEMALES
- PERSONS

# UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (THE UNEMPLOYED IN EACH GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE IN THE SAME GROUP)

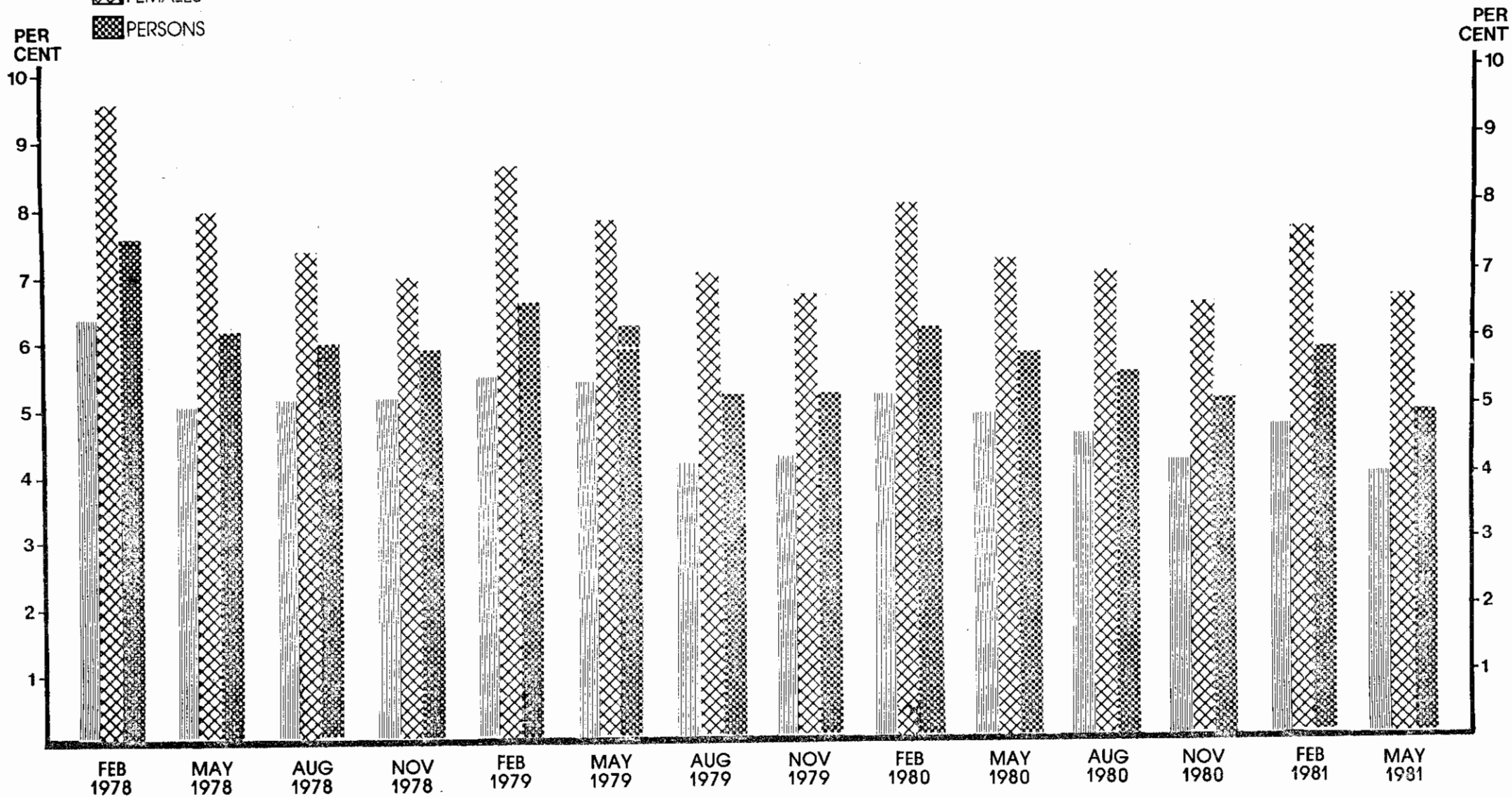


TABLE 1. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, CLASSIFIED BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS, N.S.W.

Month	Employed ( '000)	Unemployed		Total labour force		Not in labour force ( '000)	Civilian populat- ion aged 15 years and over ( '000)
		Number ( '000)	Unemploy- ment Rate (a) (per cent)	Number ( '000)	Particip- ation Rate (b) (per cent)		
MALES							
1977: May	1,355.8	78.5	5.5	1,434.3	79.9	360.2	1,794.5
1978: May	1,347.0	72.0	5.1	1,419.0	77.9	401.6	1,820.5
1979: May	1,365.4	77.9	5.4	1,443.3	77.6	415.7	1,859.0
1980: April	1,393.8	67.9	4.6	1,461.7	77.7	419.4	1,881.0
May	1,411.1	73.3	4.9	1,484.4	78.8	398.6	1,883.1
June	1,406.9	67.1	4.6	1,474.0	78.2	410.8	1,884.8
July	1,404.9	69.4	4.7	1,474.4	78.1	412.8	1,887.2
August	1,399.3	68.2	4.6	1,467.5	77.7	421.5	1,889.0
September	1,418.1	68.5	4.6	1,486.6	78.6	404.2	1,890.9
October	1,413.3	63.9	4.3	1,477.2	78.0	415.6	1,892.8
November	1,407.8	61.9	4.2	1,469.6	77.5	427.1	1,896.7
December	1,437.6	70.0	4.6	1,507.6	79.3	393.3	1,900.9
1981: January	1,418.0	76.2	5.1	1,494.2	78.4	411.1	1,905.3
February	1,422.6	70.8	4.7	1,493.4	78.3	413.7	1,907.2
March	1,434.2	65.2	4.3	1,499.4	78.5	411.0	1,910.4
April	1,429.4	59.8	4.0	1,489.3	77.8	423.8	1,913.1
May	1,429.0	59.6	4.0	1,488.6	77.6	428.8	1,917.3
MARRIED FEMALES							
1977: May	469.1	23.2	4.7	492.3	41.0	707.6	1,199.9
1978: May	468.3	28.8	5.8	497.1	41.9	688.4	1,185.6
1979: May	465.3	23.3	4.8	488.6	39.8	739.3	1,227.9
1980: April	487.0	22.2	4.4	509.1	41.8	707.6	1,216.7
May	488.8	23.7	4.6	512.5	42.3	700.3	1,212.9
June	481.7	23.4	4.6	505.2	41.5	712.4	1,217.6
July	487.1	21.4	4.2	508.5	42.0	701.7	1,210.2
August	473.8	22.4	4.5	496.2	41.2	709.2	1,205.5
September	484.8	24.7	4.8	509.5	42.3	695.9	1,205.4
October	479.0	21.1	4.2	500.1	41.3	712.3	1,212.4
November	478.6	24.7	4.9	503.3	41.4	711.4	1,214.6
December	476.1	22.2	4.4	498.3	40.9	719.1	1,217.3
1981: January	449.8	21.9	4.6	471.6	38.6	750.6	1,222.2
February	466.7	25.9	5.3	492.6	40.2	731.9	1,224.5
March	478.6	27.9	5.5	506.5	41.4	717.3	1,223.8
April	480.5	25.6	5.1	506.0	41.1	723.8	1,229.9
May	481.9	27.1	5.3	509.0	41.0	732.4	1,241.4

For footnotes, see page 2.



TABLE 1. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, CLASSIFIED BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS,  
N.S.W. (continued)

Month	Employed ( <sup>'000</sup> )	Unemployed		Total labour force		Not in labour force ( <sup>'000</sup> )	Civilian populat- ion aged 15 years and over ( <sup>'000</sup> )
		Number ( <sup>'000</sup> )	Unemploy- ment Rate (a) (per cent)	Number ( <sup>'000</sup> )	Particip- ation Rate (b) (per cent)		
ALL FEMALES							
1977: May	739.4	54.9	6.9	794.3	42.8	1,060.8	1,855.1
1978: May	745.1	65.2	8.0	810.3	43.0	1,073.6	1,883.9
1979: May	735.6	62.1	7.8	797.7	41.5	1,123.3	1,921.1
1980: April	792.8	60.1	7.0	852.9	43.8	1,093.4	1,946.3
May	798.6	61.8	7.2	860.4	44.2	1,088.2	1,948.5
June	790.2	60.0	7.1	850.3	43.6	1,100.4	1,950.7
July	804.0	54.6	6.4	858.7	44.0	1,094.0	1,952.7
August	786.4	58.8	7.0	845.3	43.2	1,109.4	1,954.7
September	812.3	62.1	7.1	874.4	44.7	1,082.2	1,956.6
October	796.5	53.5	6.3	850.0	43.4	1,108.3	1,958.3
November	795.7	55.3	6.5	851.0	43.4	1,109.7	1,960.8
December	800.0	65.7	7.6	865.7	44.1	1,096.5	1,962.2
1981: January	762.6	65.1	7.9	827.7	42.1	1,140.3	1,968.0
February	792.9	65.5	7.6	858.4	43.6	1,111.2	1,969.5
March	804.7	65.2	7.5	869.9	44.1	1,102.2	1,972.1
April	803.9	60.3	7.0	864.2	43.8	1,110.6	1,974.8
May	800.3	56.4	6.6	856.7	43.3	1,122.1	1,978.7
PERSONS							
1977: May	2,095.2	133.4	6.0	2,228.6	61.1	1,421.0	3,649.6
1978: May	2,092.1	137.2	6.2	2,229.3	60.2	1,475.2	3,704.4
1979: May	2,101.0	140.1	6.2	2,241.1	59.3	1,539.0	3,780.1
1980: April	2,186.6	127.9	5.5	2,314.6	60.5	1,512.8	3,827.4
May	2,209.7	135.1	5.8	2,344.8	61.2	1,486.8	3,831.6
June	2,197.1	127.1	5.5	2,324.3	60.6	1,511.2	3,835.5
July	2,209.0	124.1	5.3	2,333.1	60.8	1,506.8	3,839.9
August	2,185.7	127.0	5.5	2,312.8	60.2	1,530.9	3,843.6
September	2,230.4	130.6	5.5	2,361.0	61.4	1,486.5	3,847.5
October	2,209.8	117.4	5.0	2,327.2	60.4	1,523.9	3,851.1
November	2,203.4	117.2	5.1	2,320.7	60.2	1,536.8	3,857.4
December	2,237.6	135.7	5.7	2,373.4	61.4	1,489.7	3,863.1
1981: January	2,180.6	141.3	6.1	2,321.9	59.9	1,551.4	3,873.3
February	2,215.5	136.3	5.8	2,351.8	60.7	1,524.9	3,876.7
March	2,238.9	130.3	5.5	2,369.3	61.0	1,513.1	3,882.4
April	2,233.3	120.1	5.1	2,353.4	60.5	1,534.4	3,887.9
May	2,229.2	116.0	4.9	2,345.2	60.2	1,550.9	3,896.1

(a) The number of unemployed in each group as a percentage of the total labour force in the same group. (b) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group.

TABLE 2. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER,  
CLASSIFIED BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS, SYDNEY STATISTICAL DIVISION

Month	Employed ( <sup>1</sup> 000)	Unemployed		Total labour force		Not in labour force ( <sup>1</sup> 000)	Civilian populat- ion aged 15 years and over ( <sup>1</sup> 000)
		Number ( <sup>1</sup> 000)	Unemploy- ment Rate (a) (per cent)	Number ( <sup>1</sup> 000)	Particip- ation Rate (b) (per cent)		
MALES							
1977: May	859.7	52.3	5.7	912.0	80.4	223.0	1,135.0
1978: May	856.2	44.9	5.0	901.0	78.3	249.6	1,150.7
1979: May	871.5	46.1	5.0	917.6	78.1	257.9	1,175.5
1980: April	879.5	38.9	4.2	918.4	77.5	265.9	1,184.3
May	892.4	43.4	4.6	935.9	78.9	249.8	1,185.6
1981: February	894.4	46.2	4.9	940.6	78.4	258.8	1,199.3
March	908.6	38.5	4.1	947.1	78.8	254.2	1,201.3
April	908.8	33.8	3.6	942.7	78.3	260.6	1,203.2
May	903.3	36.2	3.9	939.6	77.9	266.3	1,205.9
MARRIED FEMALES							
1977: May	315.9	16.5	5.0	332.3	43.4	433.1	765.5
1978: May	318.3	17.9	5.3	336.2	44.8	414.9	751.1
1979: May	321.8	13.3	4.0	335.1	42.8	447.7	782.6
1980: April	328.7	15.0	4.4	343.7	44.8	423.1	766.8
May	333.6	13.4	3.9	347.0	45.5	415.1	762.1
1981: February	307.1	16.4	5.1	323.5	42.1	444.7	768.2
March	319.2	16.3	4.9	335.5	43.6	433.5	769.0
April	321.4	15.6	4.6	337.0	43.8	431.8	768.8
May	317.8	15.4	4.6	333.3	42.9	444.0	777.3
ALL FEMALES							
1977: May	509.6	33.5	6.2	543.1	45.1	661.6	1,204.7
1978: May	520.1	39.0	7.0	559.1	45.7	665.2	1,224.3
1979: May	521.9	34.0	6.1	555.9	44.5	692.3	1,248.2
1980: April	546.3	33.5	5.8	579.8	46.1	679.0	1,258.8
May	555.3	32.9	5.6	588.2	46.7	672.0	1,260.3
1981: February	543.0	36.9	6.4	579.9	45.6	692.3	1,272.1
March	553.1	36.3	6.2	589.4	46.3	684.4	1,273.8
April	556.9	36.0	6.1	592.9	46.5	682.6	1,275.5
May	545.8	32.5	5.6	578.3	45.2	699.7	1,278.0
PERSONS							
1977: May	1,369.3	85.8	5.9	1,455.1	62.2	884.6	2,339.7
1978: May	1,376.3	83.9	5.7	1,460.2	61.5	914.8	2,375.0
1979: May	1,393.4	80.0	5.4	1,473.5	60.8	950.2	2,423.7
1980: April	1,425.8	72.5	4.8	1,498.3	61.3	944.9	2,443.2
May	1,447.8	76.3	5.0	1,524.1	62.3	921.8	2,445.9
1981: February	1,437.3	83.1	5.5	1,520.4	61.5	951.0	2,471.5
March	1,461.7	74.8	4.9	1,536.5	62.1	938.6	2,475.1
April	1,465.7	69.9	4.6	1,535.6	62.0	943.1	2,478.7
May	1,449.1	68.7	4.5	1,517.9	61.1	966.0	2,483.9

TABLE 3. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER,  
CLASSIFIED BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS, N.S.W. : AREAS OUTSIDE SYDNEY STATISTICAL DIVISION

Month	Employed ( <sup>1</sup> 000)	Unemployed		Total labour force		Not in labour force ( <sup>1</sup> 000)	Civilian populat- ion aged 15 years and over ( <sup>1</sup> 000)
		Number ( <sup>1</sup> 000)	Unemploy- ment Rate (a) (per cent)	Number ( <sup>1</sup> 000)	Particip- ation Rate (b) (per cent)		
MALES							
1977: May	496.1	26.1	5.0	522.3	79.2	137.2	659.5
1978: May	490.8	27.1	5.2	517.9	77.3	152.0	669.9
1979: May	493.9	31.8	6.1	525.8	76.9	157.8	683.5
1980: April	514.3	29.0	5.3	543.2	78.0	153.5	696.7
May	518.7	29.9	5.4	548.6	78.7	148.9	697.4
1981: February	528.3	24.6	4.4	552.8	78.1	155.0	707.8
March	525.6	26.7	4.8	552.3	77.9	156.8	709.0
April	520.6	26.0	4.8	546.6	77.0	163.3	709.9
May	525.6	23.4	4.3	549.0	77.2	162.5	711.5
MARRIED FEMALES							
1977: May	153.3	6.7	4.2	160.0	36.8	274.5	434.4
1978: May	150.1	10.9	6.8	161.0	37.0	273.5	434.5
1979: May	143.5	10.0	6.5	153.5	34.5	291.6	445.1
1980: April	158.3	7.2	4.3	165.5	36.8	284.5	449.9
May	155.2	10.3	6.2	165.5	36.7	285.2	450.8
1981: February	159.6	9.5	5.6	169.1	37.1	287.2	456.3
March	159.4	11.5	6.7	171.0	37.6	283.8	454.8
April	159.0	10.0	5.9	169.0	36.7	292.1	461.1
May	164.1	11.6	6.6	175.7	37.9	288.3	464.1
ALL FEMALES							
1977: May	229.8	21.5	8.6	251.3	38.6	399.1	650.4
1978: May	225.0	26.2	10.4	251.2	38.1	408.4	659.6
1979: May	213.7	28.2	11.7	241.9	35.9	431.0	672.9
1980: April	246.5	26.5	9.7	273.1	39.7	414.5	687.5
May	243.2	28.9	10.6	272.2	39.5	416.1	688.3
1981: February	249.9	28.6	10.3	278.5	39.9	418.9	697.4
March	251.7	28.9	10.3	280.5	40.2	417.7	698.3
April	247.0	24.2	8.9	271.2	38.8	428.0	699.3
May	254.5	23.9	8.6	278.4	39.7	422.4	700.7
PERSONS							
1977: May	725.9	47.6	6.2	773.5	59.1	536.3	1,309.9
1978: May	715.8	53.3	6.9	769.1	57.9	560.3	1,329.5
1979: May	707.6	60.0	7.8	767.6	56.6	588.8	1,356.4
1980: April	760.8	55.5	6.8	816.3	59.0	567.9	1,384.2
May	761.9	58.8	7.2	820.7	59.2	565.0	1,385.7
1981: February	778.1	53.2	6.4	831.4	59.2	573.9	1,405.2
March	777.2	55.6	6.7	832.8	59.2	574.5	1,407.3
April	767.6	50.3	6.1	817.8	58.0	591.3	1,409.1
May	780.1	47.3	5.7	827.4	58.6	584.8	1,412.2

For footnotes, see page 2.

TABLE 4. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a) CLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRY, N.S.W.  
(1000)

Month	Agri- culture and services to agri- culture	Manu- factur- ing	Con- struct- ion	Whole- sale and retail trade	Trans- port and storage	Finance, etc.	Community services (b)	Other indust- ries (c)	Total
MALES									
1977: May	84.0	342.3	153.3	253.9	98.1	97.0	108.3	218.9	1,355.8
1978: May	74.6	338.3	136.8	254.2	97.5	101.3	116.3	227.8	1,347.0
1979: May	83.9	347.9	135.5	244.1	101.7	102.4	114.6	235.4	1,365.4
1980: Feb.	91.2	350.2	154.4	249.0	104.4	103.7	119.1	223.1	1,395.1
May	91.8	352.0	147.2	263.4	108.5	106.7	115.9	225.6	1,411.1
Aug.	82.1	350.1	146.5	252.5	112.4	103.8	118.3	233.5	1,399.3
Nov.	79.1	343.8	153.6	256.2	118.8	109.0	113.2	234.2	1,407.8
1981: Feb.	86.5	358.3	(e) 143.4	250.4	113.0	110.2	126.4	(e) 234.5	1,422.6
May	87.0	368.2	147.2	252.3	106.8	112.4	123.9	231.2	1,429.0
FEMALES									
1977: May	25.1	120.1	9.4	167.9	19.4	87.3	196.3	113.7	739.4
1978: May	18.1	121.8	11.1	184.9	18.9	91.5	173.0	125.9	745.1
1979: May	18.4	121.1	10.3	186.5	21.1	86.9	181.0	110.3	735.6
1980: Feb.	23.9	121.3	13.9	192.9	17.2	89.2	190.4	126.8	775.6
May	23.4	117.1	14.5	202.3	18.5	97.5	203.3	121.9	798.6
Aug.	22.4	106.8	15.9	189.4	20.0	96.9	215.0	120.0	786.4
Nov.	23.0	107.4	17.5	198.2	20.0	101.9	212.1	115.8	795.7
1981: Feb.	31.1	110.8	(e) 14.7	188.1	20.1	99.7	203.8	(e) 124.4	792.9
May	30.8	118.2	16.3	194.2	22.2	94.5	197.3	126.8	800.3
PERSONS									
1977: May	109.2	462.4	162.6	421.8	117.5	184.3	304.6	332.7	2,095.2
1978: May	92.7	460.2	147.9	439.1	116.4	192.8	289.4	353.7	2,092.1
1979: May	102.2	469.0	145.8	430.6	122.8	189.3	295.6	345.7	2,101.0
1980: Feb.	115.1	471.5	168.3	441.9	121.6	192.9	309.5	349.9	2,170.7
May	115.3	469.1	161.7	465.7	126.9	204.2	319.2	347.6	2,209.7
Aug.	104.5	456.9	162.4	441.9	132.5	200.7	333.3	353.5	2,185.7
Nov.	102.1	451.2	171.1	454.3	138.7	210.9	325.2	350.0	2,203.4
1981: Feb.	117.6	469.1	(e) 158.1	438.5	133.1	209.8	330.3	(e) 358.9	2,215.5
May	117.8	486.4	163.5	446.5	129.0	206.8	321.2	358.0	2,229.2

(a) Aged 15 years and over. (b) Includes Education, Health Services, Law and Order, and Religious and Social Welfare Services. (c) Comprises Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, Mining, Electricity, Gas and Water, Communication, Public Administration and Defence, and Recreation, Personal, and Other Services. (d) From September 1979, classification is according to the 1978 Edition of ASIC (see paragraph 7 of Explanatory Notes). (e) Figures from February 1981 are not comparable with those shown for previous periods due to a review of public sector activities which resulted in changes to the ASIC classification of some employees from Construction to Other Industries.

TABLE 5. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a) CLASSIFIED BY AGE GROUP, N.S.W.  
( '000)

Month	Age group (years)								Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65 and over	
MALES									
1977: May	114.7	161.1	358.6	271.5	258.9	101.0	65.2	24.8	1,355.8
1978: May	109.0	160.6	357.8	279.2	255.9	101.7	59.2	23.5	1,347.0
1979: May	116.5	169.5	365.7	289.0	247.3	100.4	52.5	24.4	1,365.4
1980: Apr.	122.0	172.6	364.1	299.1	252.4	107.6	55.3	20.6	1,393.8
May	126.8	180.8	367.4	296.7	254.4	107.8	54.0	23.2	1,411.1
1981: Feb.	133.0	186.7	372.7	304.7	245.4	105.1	50.0	25.0	1,422.6
Mar.	137.8	183.3	375.5	307.6	247.0	105.0	49.9	28.1	1,434.2
Apr.	130.8	181.8	373.9	308.3	250.2	106.4	51.8	26.1	1,429.4
May	133.8	183.0	373.1	311.5	247.7	106.1	51.5	22.3	1,429.0
MARRIED FEMALES									
1977: May	5.9	61.7	128.3	125.1	107.7	28.1	9.7	*	469.1
1978: May	5.1	53.4	136.8	134.8	100.6	27.2	7.7	*	468.3
1979: May	*	52.3	142.7	139.2	93.3	22.5	9.3	*	465.3
1980: Apr.	*	52.1	148.7	145.7	96.7	27.5	9.5	*	487.0
May	*	51.9	145.8	148.3	96.7	28.3	10.6	*	488.8
1981: Feb.	*	43.3	138.3	142.6	98.7	28.4	8.2	4.6	466.7
Mar.	*	45.4	142.4	145.4	101.9	28.3	7.6	*	478.6
Apr.	*	44.4	144.2	149.2	97.6	28.9	9.0	*	480.5
May	*	46.8	144.2	148.0	99.0	29.3	8.7	*	481.9
ALL FEMALES									
1977: May	93.7	125.5	174.9	146.6	134.1	38.3	18.4	8.0	739.4
1978: May	100.2	121.5	178.3	157.6	127.5	38.5	14.2	7.3	745.1
1979: May	94.4	127.1	187.7	158.5	114.9	33.5	15.3	*	735.6
1980: Apr.	100.6	135.2	199.0	172.8	121.1	39.2	16.0	9.0	792.8
May	100.1	135.3	201.5	175.3	121.5	40.6	16.6	7.8	798.6
1981: Feb.	109.4	132.0	198.3	169.2	119.8	40.7	14.9	8.6	792.9
Mar.	107.3	136.1	203.6	170.4	124.4	40.6	14.1	8.2	804.7
Apr.	104.1	137.6	200.3	176.9	121.3	42.0	13.9	7.9	803.9
May	106.9	134.4	199.4	173.2	124.4	41.6	13.9	6.4	800.3
PERSONS									
1977: May	208.5	286.6	533.5	418.1	393.0	139.3	83.6	32.8	2,095.2
1978: May	209.2	282.1	536.1	436.8	383.4	140.3	73.5	30.7	2,092.1
1979: May	210.9	296.6	553.4	447.5	362.2	133.9	67.8	28.7	2,101.0
1980: Apr.	222.6	307.8	563.2	471.9	373.5	146.8	71.3	29.6	2,186.6
May	226.8	316.1	568.9	472.0	375.9	148.4	70.6	31.0	2,209.7
1981: Feb.	242.4	318.7	571.1	473.9	365.2	145.8	64.9	33.5	2,215.5
Mar.	245.1	319.4	579.1	478.0	371.3	145.6	64.0	36.3	2,238.9
Apr.	234.9	319.4	574.2	485.2	371.5	148.3	65.8	34.0	2,233.3
May	240.7	317.4	572.5	484.8	372.1	147.7	65.4	28.7	2,229.2

(a) Aged 15 years and over.

TABLE 6. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a) CLASSIFIED BY OCCUPATION, N.S.W.  
('000)

Month	Profess- ional, technical, etc.	Adminis- trative, executive, manager- ial, and clerical	Sales	Farmers, fishermen, timber- getters, miners, etc.	Transport and commu- nication	Tradesmen, product- ion - process workers, labour- ers, n.e.c.	Service, sport, and recrea- tion	Total
MALES								
1977: May	151.2	236.0	88.5	112.5	112.8	584.5	70.2	1,355.8
1978: May	155.4	225.8	90.8	113.9	99.3	582.7	79.1	1,347.0
1979: May	163.8	239.9	99.0	118.4	96.2	560.8	87.2	1,365.4
1980: Feb.	158.5	239.4	94.7	123.6	94.8	604.2	79.9	1,395.1
May	168.3	238.2	94.3	124.8	106.0	602.1	77.3	1,411.1
Aug.	169.4	235.3	89.9	120.6	103.6	608.1	72.3	1,399.3
Nov.	172.4	241.6	86.0	117.5	106.6	614.9	68.8	1,407.8
1981: Feb.	170.2	233.9	86.9	126.8	107.7	619.8	77.3	1,422.6
May	169.4	238.9	90.2	123.0	102.2	629.9	75.5	1,429.0
FEMALES								
1977: May	129.1	279.4	94.2	22.4	18.3	83.5	112.6	739.4
1978: May	114.5	286.6	104.1	17.4	14.5	84.5	123.6	745.1
1979: May	126.3	266.3	104.5	18.3	19.1	81.2	119.9	735.6
1980: Feb.	126.7	296.1	106.9	22.5	16.6	85.4	121.4	775.6
May	137.1	302.6	110.7	22.3	17.3	82.3	126.3	798.6
Aug.	150.1	290.8	100.1	22.0	15.7	79.0	128.7	786.4
Nov.	143.8	297.8	110.2	21.2	14.7	82.8	125.1	795.7
1981: Feb.	133.8	306.9	101.4	27.7	15.2	82.9	125.0	792.9
May	130.3	316.0	102.9	30.2	18.1	88.8	114.0	800.3
PERSONS								
1977: May	280.3	515.4	182.7	134.9	131.1	668.0	182.9	2,095.2
1978: May	269.9	512.3	194.9	131.3	113.8	667.2	202.7	2,092.1
1979: May	290.1	506.2	203.5	136.6	115.3	642.1	207.1	2,101.0
1980: Feb.	285.2	535.6	201.6	146.1	111.3	689.7	201.3	2,170.7
May	305.4	540.8	205.0	147.1	123.4	684.4	203.6	2,209.7
Aug.	319.5	526.2	190.0	142.6	119.3	687.1	201.0	2,185.7
Nov.	316.2	539.4	196.2	138.8	121.3	697.7	193.9	2,203.4
1981: Feb.	304.0	540.8	188.3	154.5	122.9	702.7	202.3	2,215.5
May	299.7	554.9	193.0	153.2	120.3	718.7	189.4	2,229.2

(a) Aged 15 years and over.

TABLE 7. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a) CLASSIFIED BY MAJOR AND MINOR OCCUPATION GROUPS, N.S.W., MAY 1981

('000)

Occupation group	Males	Females	Persons
Professional, technical, and related workers -	169.4	130.3	299.7
Architects, engineers and surveyors, professional (b)	27.4	*	27.7
Chemists, physicists, geologists, and other physical scientists	*	*	4.6
Biologists, veterinarians, agronomists, and related scientists	*	*	*
Medical practitioners and dentists	10.9	*	12.9
Nurses, including probationers or trainees	*	41.6	45.0
Professional medical workers n.e.c.	4.6	7.9	12.5
Teachers	33.7	46.2	79.9
Clergy and related members of religious orders	*	*	*
Law professionals	7.5	*	8.4
Artists, entertainers, writers, and related workers	13.4	5.9	19.3
Draftsmen and technicians, n.e.c. (b)	27.4	8.6	36.0
Other professional, technical, and related workers	31.7	14.7	46.4
Administrative, executive, and managerial workers -	124.1	14.3	138.3
Administrative and executive officials, government, n.e.c.	*	*	*
Employers, workers on own account, directors, managers, n.e.c.	121.9	14.3	136.1
Clerical workers -	114.8	301.7	416.5
Book-keepers and cashiers	13.0	50.0	63.0
Stenographers and typists	*	86.4	86.6
Other clerical workers	101.6	165.4	267.0
Sales workers -	90.2	102.9	193.0
Insurance, real estate salesmen, auctioneers, and valuers	13.9	*	15.5
Commercial travellers and manufacturers agents	18.9	*	21.6
Proprietors and shopkeepers, workers on own account, n.e.c., retail and wholesale trade; salesmen, shop assistants, and related workers	57.4	98.6	155.9
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc. -	107.4	30.2	137.6
Farmers and farm managers	55.6	20.5	76.1
Farm workers including farm foremen	43.0	9.2	52.3
Wool classers	*	*	*
Hunters and trappers	*	*	*
Fishermen and related workers	*	*	*
Timber-getters and other forestry workers	5.9	*	6.3
Miners, quarrymen, and related workers -	15.6	*	15.6
Miners, mineral prospectors, and quarrymen	14.0	*	14.0
Well drillers, oil, water, and related workers	*	*	*
Mineral treaters	*	*	*

For footnotes, see page 10.

TABLE 7. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a) CLASSIFIED BY MAJOR AND MINOR OCCUPATION GROUPS, N.S.W.,  
MAY 1981 (continued)

('000)

Occupation group	Males	Females	Persons
Transport and communication -	102.2	18.1	120.3
Deck and engineer officers, ship, not services	*	*	*
Deck and engine room hands, ship and boatmen, not services	*	*	*
Aircraft pilots, navigators and flight engineers, not services	*	*	*
Drivers and firemen, rail transport	4.5	*	4.5
Drivers, road transport	69.7	5.5	75.3
Guards and conductors, railway	*	*	*
Inspectors, supervisors, traffic controllers, and despatchers, transport	11.5	*	11.7
Telephone, telegraph, and related telecommunication operators	*	7.7	8.8
Postmasters, postmen, and messengers	8.1	*	11.6
Workers in transport and communication, n.e.c.	*	*	*
Tradesmen, production-process workers, and labourers, n.e.c. -	629.9	88.8	718.7
Spinners, weavers, knitters, dyers, and related workers	*	*	5.1
Tailors, cutters, furriers, and related workers	6.4	21.9	28.3
Leather cutters, lasters, sewers (except gloves and garments), and related workers	*	*	4.9
Furnacemen, rollers, drawers, moulders, and related metal making and treating workers	10.3	*	11.2
Precision instrument makers, watchmakers, jewellers, and related workers	7.2	*	8.1
Machine toolmakers, metal machinists, mechanics, plumbers, and related metal workers	172.0	4.6	176.6
Electricians and related electrical and electronic workers	56.8	*	58.4
Metal workers, metal and electrical production-process workers, n.e.c.	28.7	11.3	40.0
Carpenters, woodworking machinists, cabinetmakers, and related workers	42.7	*	44.3
Painters and decorators	19.1	*	19.6
Bricklayers, plasterers, and construction workers, n.e.c.	58.6	*	58.6
Compositors, printing machinists, engravers, book- binders, and related workers	15.9	*	18.4
Potters, kilnmen, glass and clay formers, and related workers	*	*	*
Millers, bakers, butchers, brewers, and related food and drink workers	25.1	*	29.3
Chemical, sugar, and paper production-process workers	11.4	*	14.0
Tobacco preparers and tobacco product makers	*	*	*
Paper products, rubber, plastic, and production- process workers, n.e.c.	13.3	11.5	24.8
Packers, wrappers, labellers	5.8	12.2	18.1
Stationary engine, excavating, and lifting equipment operators	38.5	*	38.5
Storemen and freight handlers	41.8	*	45.4
Labourers, n.e.c.	68.1	*	70.0
Apprentices, factory workers, foremen, machinists, (so described), n.e.c.	(c)	(c)	(c)

For footnotes, see page 10.



TABLE 7. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a) CLASSIFIED BY MAJOR AND MINOR OCCUPATION GROUPS, N.S.W.,  
MAY 1981 (continued)

('000)

Occupation group	Males	Females	Persons
Service, sport, and recreation workers -	75.5	114.0	189.4
Fire brigade, police, and other protective service workers	18.5	*	19.2
Housekeepers, cooks, maids, and related workers	13.9	47.0	60.9
Waiters, bartenders	10.2	18.8	28.9
Caretakers, cleaners : buildings	14.1	22.0	36.1
Barbers, hairdressers, and beauticians	*	8.5	12.3
Launderers, dry cleaners, and pressers	*	4.8	6.5
Athletes, sportsmen, and related workers	*	*	*
Photographers and camera operators	*	*	*
Undertakers and crematorium workers	*	*	*
Service, sport, recreation workers, n.e.c.	10.4	12.2	22.6
Total	1,429.0	800.3	2,229.2

(a) Aged 15 years and over. (b) In the 1971 and 1976 Censuses the minor occupation group 'architects, engineers and surveyors, professional' was limited solely to persons holding a university degree. Other persons describing themselves in professional terms but not holding a degree were classified to minor group 'Draftsmen and technicians, n.e.c.'. Information to enable this distinction to be made in the labour force survey is not available. (c) Apprentices are coded to the trade in which they are apprenticed. Other employees in these categories are allocated to minor groups in the major group 'Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.' according to industry.

TABLE 8. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a) CLASSIFIED BY FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, N.S.W.  
( '000)

Month	Full-time			Part-time			Total employed		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
1977: May	1,287.7	502.7	1,790.4	68.1	236.7	304.8	1,355.8	739.4	2,095.2
1978: May	1,277.0	509.0	1,786.0	69.9	236.2	306.1	1,347.0	745.1	2,092.1
1979: May	1,291.0	492.8	1,783.7	74.5	242.8	317.3	1,365.4	735.6	2,101.0
1980: Apr.	1,319.2	535.8	1,855.0	74.5	257.1	331.6	1,393.8	792.8	2,186.6
May	1,343.9	546.2	1,890.1	67.3	252.4	319.6	1,411.1	798.6	2,209.7
1981: Feb.	1,354.9	526.4	1,881.3	67.7	266.4	334.2	1,422.6	792.9	2,215.5
Mar.	1,352.0	522.6	1,874.6	82.2	282.1	364.4	1,434.2	804.7	2,238.9
Apr.	1,351.8	532.4	1,884.2	77.6	271.5	349.1	1,429.4	803.9	2,233.3
May	1,347.1	532.1	1,879.3	81.6	268.1	349.9	1,429.0	800.3	2,229.2

(a) Aged 15 years and over.

TABLE 9. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a) CLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRY(b) OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB, N.S.W.  
( '000)

Category	February 1980	May 1980	August 1980	November 1980	February 1981	May 1981
Had worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job in the last two years	79.6	81.0	72.9	60.5	75.6	64.5
Industry division -						
Agriculture and services to agriculture	*	4.7	*	*	*	*
Manufacturing	22.6	23.3	22.6	18.3	21.9	18.4
Construction	7.7	9.0	8.5	7.4	7.9	7.9
Wholesale and retail trade	17.5	16.4	16.7	14.0	20.2	15.0
Transport and storage	*	*	*	*	*	*
Finance, property, and business services	*	5.0	*	*	*	*
Community services (c)	8.6	7.5	6.0	5.5	6.5	*
Other industries (d)	13.2	10.7	9.4	7.6	9.2	10.5
Other -						
Looking for first job (e)	31.8	23.4	20.8	21.2	29.1	17.1
Other (f)	31.9	31.7	27.0	29.5	33.4	30.3
Stood down	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	144.6	135.1	127.0	117.2	136.3	116.0

(a) Aged 15 years and over. (b) Classification is according to the 1978 Edition of ASIC (see paragraph 7 of Explanatory Notes). (c) Includes Education, Health Services, Law and Order, and Religious and Social Welfare Services. (d) Comprises Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, Mining, Electricity, Gas and Water, Communication, Public Administration and Defence, and Recreation, Personal, and Other Services. (e) Persons who had never worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job. (f) Persons who had not worked full-time for two weeks or more during the last two years but who had at some time in the past.

TABLE 10. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a) CLASSIFIED BY AGE GROUP, N.S.W.  
('000)

Month	Age group (years)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
MALES							
1977: May	27.1	15.1	12.5	11.0	6.4	6.4	78.5
1978: May	17.9	13.8	14.6	11.1	8.4	6.2	72.0
1979: May	21.8	18.6	16.7	8.0	6.7	6.1	77.9
1980: April	16.3	18.1	16.4	7.4	5.9	*	67.9
May	19.8	14.9	17.9	9.4	6.6	4.6	73.3
1981: February	22.3	14.5	12.4	6.4	9.4	5.9	70.8
March	17.9	14.8	12.8	6.0	7.7	6.0	65.2
April	16.6	14.0	12.5	5.8	6.2	4.7	59.8
May	15.3	13.7	13.2	7.0	5.8	4.6	59.6
MARRIED FEMALES							
1977: May	*	4.6	7.2	5.8	*	*	23.2
1978: May	*	4.5	13.7	6.4	*	*	28.8
1979: May	*	*	8.2	7.0	*	*	23.3
1980: April	*	*	8.9	5.4	*	*	22.2
May	*	*	9.3	5.3	*	*	23.7
1981: February	*	*	9.1	6.8	*	*	25.9
March	*	*	10.1	6.6	*	*	27.9
April	*	*	10.1	7.3	*	*	25.6
May	*	4.8	10.0	7.4	*	*	27.1
ALL FEMALES							
1977: May	23.7	8.2	9.5	7.4	5.1	*	54.9
1978: May	22.7	12.8	16.3	7.5	*	*	65.2
1979: May	26.5	12.2	11.4	7.8	*	*	62.1
1980: April	22.2	11.9	12.9	7.0	4.6	*	60.1
May	24.0	13.9	11.9	6.2	*	*	61.8
1981: February	24.0	12.9	13.8	8.3	5.3	*	65.5
March	22.2	14.6	14.1	8.5	*	*	65.2
April	19.8	13.3	12.5	9.1	4.5	*	60.3
May	15.5	12.3	14.7	9.5	*	*	56.4
PERSONS							
1977: May	50.8	23.3	22.0	18.3	11.5	7.4	133.4
1978: May	40.6	26.5	30.9	18.6	11.9	8.6	137.2
1979: May	48.3	30.8	28.1	15.8	10.0	7.0	140.1
1980: April	38.5	30.0	29.2	14.4	10.5	5.3	127.9
May	43.8	28.8	29.9	15.6	10.7	6.4	135.1
1981: February	46.3	27.3	26.1	14.7	14.7	7.2	136.3
March	40.1	29.3	27.0	14.5	12.2	7.3	130.3
April	36.4	27.3	25.0	15.0	10.7	5.8	120.1
May	30.8	26.0	27.9	16.4	9.2	5.8	116.0

(a) Aged 15 years and over.

TABLE 11. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a) CLASSIFIED BY DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b), N.S.W.

Month	Unemployed persons ('000) classified by duration of unemployment (weeks)							Total unemployment ('000)	Average duration of unemployment (weeks)
	Under 2	2 and under 4	4 and under 8	8 and under 13	13 and under 26	26 and under 39	39 and over		
MALES									
1977: May	*	10.6	12.6	14.2	16.6	8.6	13.0	78.5	20.5
1978: May	6.2	6.8	7.4	10.1	15.3	7.0	19.2	72.0	30.7
1979: May	5.0	6.3	10.2	10.6	13.6	9.6	22.6	77.9	33.7
1980: Apr.	5.4	8.9	9.8	7.0	15.5	*	17.8	67.9	33.4
May	5.8	7.1	11.7	12.7	13.0	5.5	17.4	73.3	31.7
1981: Feb.	7.2	6.9	13.1	12.0	8.2	*	19.4	70.8	36.4
Mar.	6.8	7.6	8.8	10.8	8.3	6.6	16.4	65.2	36.3
Apr.	6.4	7.0	9.5	6.6	10.9	5.3	14.1	59.8	33.9
May	6.3	6.5	6.7	7.1	11.2	6.9	15.1	59.6	39.3
FEMALES									
1977: May	*	9.3	6.1	9.8	12.0	*	11.6	54.9	22.5
1978: May	7.5	8.2	7.1	7.5	15.5	6.2	13.2	65.2	27.2
1979: May	6.0	4.8	9.1	5.1	14.8	6.5	15.9	62.1	32.7
1980: Apr.	5.8	8.6	6.9	9.4	11.4	*	15.0	60.1	31.6
May	5.3	8.1	7.4	5.7	15.2	6.0	14.1	61.8	31.0
1981: Feb.	11.0	9.1	10.3	10.8	7.5	*	12.7	65.5	24.9
Mar.	9.8	8.5	9.9	10.5	7.0	5.3	14.2	65.2	29.1
Apr.	8.0	7.1	8.6	6.6	11.9	5.7	12.3	60.3	25.8
May	5.8	7.1	10.1	7.2	9.9	4.6	11.6	56.4	30.6
PERSONS									
1977: May	6.4	19.9	18.7	23.9	28.6	11.2	24.5	133.4	21.3
1978: May	13.7	15.0	14.5	17.6	30.8	13.2	32.3	137.2	29.0
1979: May	11.0	11.0	19.3	15.7	28.5	16.2	38.4	140.1	33.3
1980: Apr.	11.2	17.5	16.7	16.4	26.8	6.5	32.8	127.9	32.6
May	11.1	15.3	19.1	18.4	28.2	11.5	31.5	135.1	31.4
1981: Feb.	18.2	16.0	23.3	22.8	15.7	8.2	32.1	136.3	30.9
Mar.	16.6	16.1	18.6	21.3	15.3	11.8	30.6	130.3	32.7
Apr.	14.3	14.1	18.1	13.2	22.8	11.1	26.4	120.1	29.8
May	12.0	13.6	16.8	14.3	21.1	11.5	26.7	116.0	35.1

(a) Aged 15 years and over. (b) Period from the time the person began looking for work, or was laid off, to the end of the survey week. Periods of unemployment are recorded in complete weeks and this results in a slight understatement of duration of unemployment.

TABLE 12. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a) CLASSIFIED BY OCCUPATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB, N.S.W.  
( '000)

Category	February 1980	May 1980	August 1980	November 1980	February 1981	May 1981
Had worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job in the last two years	79.6	81.0	72.9	60.5	75.6	64.5
Occupation group -						
Professional, technical, etc.	7.4	5.0	4.9	*	*	*
Administrative, executive, managerial, and clerical	10.8	11.7	7.4	8.8	12.4	10.1
Sales	7.0	6.7	6.9	5.8	8.4	*
Farmers, fishermen, timber getters, miners, etc.	*	6.4	*	*	4.5	*
Transport and communication	4.9	*	4.6	*	4.7	*
Tradesmen, production-process workers, labourers, n.e.c.	35.8	38.1	35.4	29.6	34.7	33.1
Service, sport, and recreation	9.8	8.9	9.5	5.3	8.1	5.4
Other -						
Looking for first job (b)	31.8	23.4	20.8	21.2	29.1	17.1
Other (c)	31.7	27.0	29.5	33.4	30.3	31.9
Stood down	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	144.6	135.1	127.0	117.2	136.3	116.0

(a) Aged 15 years and over. (b) Persons who had never worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job. (c) Persons who had not worked full-time for two weeks or more during the last two years but who had at some time in the past.

## TECHNICAL NOTE

### Estimation Procedure

1. The labour force estimates are derived from the Population Survey by use of a complex ratio estimation procedure. This procedure ensures that the Survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

### Reliability of the Estimates

2. Two types of error are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey: sampling error and non-sampling error. The sampling error is a measure of the variability that occurs by chance because a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, the estimates and the movements derived from them are subject to sampling variability; that is they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the Survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. The standard error can also be expressed as a percentage of the estimate, and this is known as the relative standard error.

3. A table of standard errors for general application to estimates derived from the survey, from November 1977, is given below. Details of standard errors for estimates prior to November 1977 are contained in the bulletin The Labour Force, Australia, 1978 (6204.0). The figures will not give a precise measure of standard error of a particular estimate since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics.

However, they will provide an indication of the magnitude of the standard error of any estimate shown in this bulletin.

4. An example of the use of Columns (2) and (3) of the table is as follows :-

If the estimate obtained from the sample is 100,000 (see Column (1)) the standard error is 3.9 per cent of the estimate, i.e. 3,900 - and there are about two chances in three that the true figure is within the range 96,100 to 103,900 and about nineteen chances in twenty that this figure is between 92,200 and 107,800. As the standard errors in Column (3) show, the smaller the estimate, the higher is the per cent standard error.

5. The movement in the level of an estimate is also subject to sampling variability. The standard error of the movement depends on the levels of the estimates from which the movement is obtained rather than on the size of the movement. An indication of the magnitude of standard errors of monthly movements is also given in the Table, Column (4) - where the standard error of the monthly movement is read against the larger of the two estimates appearing in Column (1) from which the movement is derived. The estimates of standard error of monthly movements apply only to estimates of movements between two consecutive months. Movements between corresponding months of consecutive quarters (quarterly movements), corresponding months of consecutive years (annual movements), and two other non-consecutive months, will generally be subject to somewhat greater sampling variability than is indicated in Column (4) of the Table. An example of the use of Column (4) is as follows :

If the estimates for two successive months are 480,000 and 500,000 (i.e. an increase of 20,000), this Column shows that the standard error of the monthly movement will be 5,100 (the figure shown in the Column against 500,000 in Column 1). That is, there are about two chances in three that the monthly movement lies between 14,900 and

25,100 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it lies between 9,800 and 30,200.

A guide to the standard errors of quarterly and annual movements for periods from February 1978 can be obtained by multiplying the figures in Column (4) (standard errors of monthly movements) by 1.4. The standard errors of quarterly movements for periods prior to February 1978 were published in the Technical Note in the November 1977 issue of this bulletin. The standard errors of annual movements prior to February 1978 are contained in the bulletin The Labour Force, Australia, 1978 (6204.0).

6. The standard errors of estimates relating to agricultural employment are generally somewhat higher than the standard errors of other estimates of the same magnitude. Estimates for females also tend to have higher standard errors than estimates of equivalent size for males in similar employment categories. The standard errors for Sydney Statistical Division are approximately the same as for New South Wales as a whole.

7. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data

for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the relative standard error of the estimated percentage will generally be slightly lower than the relative standard error of the estimate of the numerator. The relative standard errors of the numerator can be obtained from Column (3) in the table below.

8. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents, errors made in collection such as in recording and coding of data, and errors made in processing the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors - and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient operating procedures.

9. Estimates below 4,500 have been excluded from this bulletin because they are subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes.

#### APPROXIMATE STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate	Standard error of monthly estimate		Standard error of monthly movement (a)
Persons (1)	Persons (2)	Per cent of estimate (3)	Persons (4)
4,500	1,000	22.2	1,000
5,000	1,100	22.0	1,100
6,000	1,200	20.0	1,200
10,000	1,500	15.0	1,400
20,000	2,000	10.0	1,800
50,000	3,000	6.0	2,500
100,000	3,900	3.9	3,200
200,000	5,000	2.5	3,900
300,000	5,800	1.9	4,400
500,000	6,900	1.4	5,100
1,000,000	8,500	0.9	6,100
2,000,000	10,000	0.5	7,200

(a) The standard error of the monthly movement is read against the size of the larger of the two estimates - appearing in Column (1) - from which the movement is derived.